1	2	3	4	5
12.	Jharkhand	NA	NA	14395
13.	Karnataka	NA	NA	20621
14.	Kerala	NA	NA	14147
15.	Madhya Pradesh	15371	3317	18688
16.	Maharashtra	NA	NA	50160
17.	Manipur	NA	NA	2551
18.	Meghalaya	3655	647	4302
19.	Mizoram	791	237	1028
20.	Nagaland	NA	NA	401
21.	Orissa	NA	NA	25186
22.	Punjab	NA	NA	13874
23.	Rajasthan	15747	5156	20903
24.	Sikkim	NA	NA	1071
25.	Tamil Nadu	NA	NA	27995
26.	Tripura	1248	198	1446
27.	Uttaranchal	6656	676	7332
28.	Uttar Pradesh	56979	17809	74788
29.	West Bengal	NA	NA	20424
30.	A&N Islands	329	159	488
31.	Chandigarh	NA	NA	26
32	D&N Haveli	78	NA	78
33.	Daman & Diu	27	24	51
34	Lakshdweep	21	14	35
35.	Pondicherry	NA	NA	410
	TOTAL:	175073	49336	478996

NA=Not Available

Price of Sugar

†531. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that selling price of sugar for consumers has increased during the years 2004 and 2005.

(b) if so, the minimum and maximum selling price of sugar for consumers in retail markets in the country during January 2004, December 2004 and July 2005; and

(c) the reasons for this increase in prices?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTIN (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The average minimum and maximum retail price of sugar in the four principal markets of the country during the months of January 2004, December 2004 and July 2005 (upto 13th) were Rs. 13.25-16.00, Rs. 17.50-19.00 and Rs. 17.50-20.50 per Kg. respectively.

(c) Huge production of sugar upto 2002-03 and consequent accumulation of sugar stocks resulted in low retail prices upto 2004. However, subsequent relative increase in prices may be attributed to relative lower production of sugar and higher costs of production.

Decline in Wheat and Rice production

532. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India expects the wheat output to be lower this year by almost 5 million tonnes;

(b) whether Government holds enough buffer stock of wheat and rice for distribution under welfare schemes; and

(c) whether the grain trading community apprehends that the country might return to a situation of 1999 when the Southern States imported wheat as they found it cheaper than moving the stocks from northern wheat producing areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

New Food and Public Distribution Policy

†533. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a New Food and Public Distribution Policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.